

House Bill 1152

By: Representatives Buckner of the 76th, Reece of the 11th, Manning of the 32nd, Houston of the 170th, and Marin of the 96th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Part 2 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to competencies and core curriculum in elementary and secondary
3 education, so as to provide for legislative purpose; to provide that each local board of
4 education shall prescribe a course of study in personal safety skills and abduction avoidance;
5 to authorize such local boards to supplement and develop the exact approach of content areas
6 of such minimum course of study; to provide that the State Board of Education shall
7 prescribe a minimum course of study and shall establish standards for its administration; to
8 provide for certain topics of instruction; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
9 laws; and for other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 Part 2 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
13 relating to competencies and core curriculum in elementary and secondary education, is
14 amended by adding at the end thereof a new Code Section 20-2-148 to read as follows:

15 "20-2-148.

16 (a) The purpose of this Code section shall be to educate students as to the importance of
17 personal safety and avoiding abduction by providing appropriate educational programs for
18 children in this state. The General Assembly finds and declares that our society must foster
19 education which empowers children to react in situations with personal safety skills
20 utilizing safety plans and strategies.

21 (b) Each local board of education shall prescribe a course of study in personal safety and
22 abduction avoidance for students in grades kindergarten through 12 for the purpose of
23 teaching the young people of this state about personal safety skills and abduction
24 avoidance. Such course of study may implement either the minimum course of study
25 provided for in subsection (c) of this Code section or its equivalent, as approved by the

1 State Board of Education. Each local board of education may supplement the content areas
2 of such minimum course of study as it may deem appropriate.

3 (c) The State Board of Education shall prescribe a minimum course of study in personal
4 safety skills and abduction avoidance and shall establish standards for its administration.
5 Such minimum course of study shall include but not be limited to instruction relating to:

6 (1) Statistics on abduction, bullying, child abuse, and sexual assault;

7 (2) Using confidence, self-esteem, and personal safety skills when faced with dangerous
8 situations;

9 (3) Using plans and strategies while practicing realistic physical skills to escape violence
10 and abductors;

11 (4) Community resources that are available to victims of family violence, child abuse,
12 or abduction; and

13 (5) Criminal penalties for assault and battery and child abuse offenses as well as
14 abduction.

15 A manual setting out the details of such course of study shall be prepared by or approved
16 by the State School Superintendent in cooperation with the State Board of Education.

17 (d) The minimum course of study to be prescribed by the State Board of Education
18 pursuant to subsection (c) of this Code section shall be ready for implementation not later
19 than July 1, 2008. Each local board of education shall no later than July 1, 2008,
20 implement such minimum course of study or its approved equivalent and certify such
21 implementation by letter to the State Board of Education."

22 SECTION 2.

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.